

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL EDUCATION REVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE EXEC-COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE (4/5/19)

Committee members: William Hendry (chair-LAS math/natural science), Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn (Fine arts), Atul Rai (Business), Bobby Berry (Applied Studies), Helen Hundley (LAS humanities), Jeff Jarman (LAS social/behavioral sciences), Kamran Rokhsaz (Engineering), Lisa Garcia (Health Professions), Roy Myose (Honors) Susan Matveyeva (Library), Shelby Rowell (SGA)

Ex officio members: Jessica Raburn (Honors), Linnea Glenmayer (Academic Affairs), Mandy Konecny (Health Professions), Patricia Phillips (LAS), Sally Fiscus (registrar)

CHARGE GIVEN BY SENATE TO THE GENERAL EDUCATION REVISION COMMITTEE IN SPRING 2018

- In light of the recent request by the Kansas Board of Regents to cap degree programs at a total of 120 credit hours and requests from the College of Engineering to examine credit hour requirements rather than total course standards, the General Education Committee recommends that the issue of revising the General Education Program be placed before the Faculty Senate. While the goals and outcomes of General Education have not been called into question, the best method to achieve those goals and outcomes while balancing the demand of the major bear a revisiting by the body of the faculty. Accordingly, the General Education committee requests the Faculty Senate take up the question of whether to examine the necessity to revise, maintain, or replace the General Education Program as currently practiced.

PROPOSAL BY GENERAL EDUCATION REVISION COMMITTEE (4/5/19) based on motion as follows:

Maintain the following components of General Education:

- **GOAL:** The goal of general education is to enable you to live a rich, meaningful life by developing: an informed appreciation of the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences; an ability to intelligently follow and participate in current events; and a sensitive and tutored appreciation of diverse cultures and ways of living.
- **OUTCOMES:** Embedded throughout general education and furthered in the major are the skills that enable graduates to contribute productively to society and the on-going culture. Therefore, upon graduation the faculty expects you to:
 - Have acquired knowledge in the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences
 - Think critically and independently
 - Write and speak effectively
 - Employ analytical reasoning and problem solving techniques

Change the following components of General Education:

- Reduce credit hours to 33 hours from 42.
- Distribution requirement of at least 3 credit hours in each of the four divisions: a) Fine Arts, b) Humanities, c) Social & Behavioral Sciences, and d) Math & Natural Sciences
- Combine introductory, further studies & issues and perspectives into one general education category.*
- Allow up to 3 credit hours of approved general education to be counted toward the major.

MOCK UP OF GENERAL EDUCATION USING CURRENT WEB PAGE STRUCTURE

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS, IN A NUTSHELL.

The 33-hour General Education Program at WSU consists of two areas containing four kinds of courses

FOUNDATION COURSES: Complete four courses (12 hour minimum) within the first 48 hours of enrollment with a grade of C- or better. Foundation courses cover the fundamental skills you will need throughout your college career and should be taken at the beginning of your studies.

- English I
- English II
- Public Speaking
- Math

AND

DIVISION COURSES: Complete at least 3 credit hours in each of the following 4 divisions:

- Fine Arts
- Humanities
- Social/Behavioral Sciences
- Math/Natural Science

AND

Up to nine additional credit hours from approved general education courses.

* FYS courses are introductory courses which will be a part of this single general education category. Incoming first year students will be required to take one FYS course during their first year at WSU.